

St. Mary's & Our Lady of Lourdes

Serving the Roman Catholic Communities of Fort Frances and Couchiching First Nation



Parish Office

209 Victoria Avenue, Fort Frances,
Ontario P9A 2B8
Tel: 807 274-5233
Fax: 807 274-7966
Hours: Monday - Friday
9:00am - 3:00pm
Web: www.stmarysfortfrances.com
Email: stmarys@tbaytel.net

Pastoral Team

Reverend Gino Mathias, Pastor

Parish Staff

Mrs. Tina Roth, Administrative Secretary
stmarys@tbaytel.net
Mr. Gerald Cousineau, Custodian

Join Us!

To become a parishioner, please
complete a Parish Registration form
at the entrance of the church.

Mass Schedule

Saturday 5:00pm
Sunday 9:00am@OLOL, 11:00am
Wednesday, Friday & Saturday 9:20am
Tuesday 6:00pm
Thursday 10:00am@Rainycrest

Confessions

Tuesday - Saturday 9:00am
Saturday 4:00 - 4:30pm
Sunday 10:00 - 10:40am
8:20 - 8:50am OLOL
or by appointment

Eucharist Adoration

Friday 9:45 - 10:30am

Holy Hour

First Friday 9:45 - 10:45am

(events celebrated at Our Lady of
Lourdes Parish are denoted by OLOL)

Baptisms

Please call 3 months in advance
Baptism Preparation Class every 2nd
Tuesday of the month at 6:30pm

Children's Liturgy

During Sunday Masses
September thru May

Rosary

Weekdays **before** mass
Sunday 8:40am OLOL

Anointing of the Sick

Please call to request a visit, or in an
emergency ask hospital staff for
"Roman Catholic Priest on call"

Marriage

Please call 6 months in advance

Becoming Catholic (RCIA)

Process begins in
September, please call at
any time

*****OUR MISSION*****



We are bonded together by a deep, personal faith in Jesus
Christ, and called to the fullness of Christian life by virtue of
Baptism and Confirmation and the perfection of love.





December 17, 2023

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Tuesday 19th

6:00pm + Jim, + Jane, + Cindy & + Jacko McLeod
- Wayne & Rita McLeod

Wednesday 20th

9:20am + Dennis Huntley - Grace

Thursday 21st @ Rainycrest

10:00am + Queenie Leschinski – Marg Rousseau

Friday 22nd

9:20am + Catherine Behan – Anne & Alan
Zucchiatti and + Francois DeGagné-Roset
- Kathy & Leo Pruys

Saturday 23rd

9:20am + Robert McNay - Anna
5:00pm + John George – The Hebert Family

Sunday 24th Christmas Eve

5:00pm Intentions of All Parishioners
8:00pm Intentions of All Parishioners (LOL)
11:00pm Intentions of All Parishioners

Monday 25th Christmas Day

11:00am Intentions of All Parishioners

December 17, 2023

Third Sunday of Advent

1st reading: (Isaiah 61.1-2a, 10-11)

2nd reading: (1 Thessalonians 5.16-24)

Gospel: (John 1.6-8, 19-28)

Ministry Schedule

Dec. 16 – Gilles/Kim (Lector), Karen (EMHC)
Dec. 17 – Kayden/Georges (Lector), Noble (EMHC)
Dec. 23 – Kim/Anna (Lector), Sandy (EMHC)
Dec. 24 – 5pm - Kayden/Miranda (Lector)
Gina (EMHC)
Dec. 24 – 11pm – Ingrid/Kim (Lector)
Greg (EMHC)
Dec. 25 – 11am – Anne/Georges (Lector)
Gayle (EMHC)



Donations for Christmas Flowers are being accepted. If you would like to donate in memory of a loved one, please be sure to put your intention on an envelope

marked 'Christmas Flowers'. Deadline is December 21st.

A Joyful Sunday

The third Sunday of Advent is known as Gaudete Sunday, a Joyful Sunday. It is a day of rejoicing and anticipation as it marks the midpoint of the Advent season. Gaudete Sunday is an important part of the Advent season, emphasizing both the penitential nature of the season and the joyful anticipation of the celebration of Christ's birth.

The term "Gaudete" comes from the Latin word for "rejoice." "Gaudete in Domino semper" (Rejoice in the Lord always), which is a quote from Philippians 4:4-6. The liturgical color for Gaudete Sunday is rose or pink, symbolizing joy and hope in the midst of the penitential season of Advent.

Gaudete Sunday serves as a reminder that the coming of Christ is a source of great joy for Christians, and it encourages believers to reflect on the hope and anticipation associated with the birth of Jesus. This Sunday is also an opportunity for spiritual reflection and a reminder to continue preparing one's heart for the celebration of Christmas.

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday, Dec. 24 (no morning mass)

5pm Mass @ St. Mary's

8pm Mass @ Our Lady of Lourdes

11pm Mass @ St. Mary's

Monday, Dec. 25

11am Mass @ St. Mary's

Sunday, Dec. 31

9am Mass @ Our Lady of Lourdes

11am Mass @ St. Mary's

Monday, Jan. 1, 2024

10am Mass @ St. Mary's

The office will be closed for the holidays on December 24th and will remain closed until January 2nd. Sorry for any inconvenience this may cause.

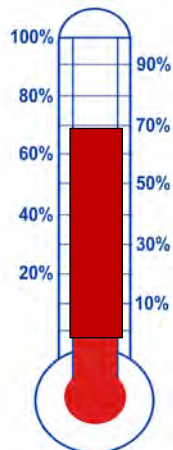
Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

A PRAYER FOR THE Third Sunday of Advent

Joy-filled Giver of Life,
let the anticipation of your birth
fill us with overflowing joy.
May our excitement and anticipation
be a sign to the world
that you are always near.
Amen.



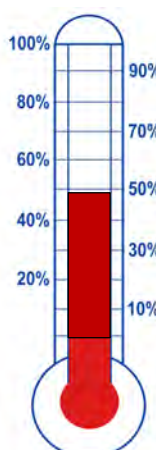
Annual Diocesan Ministry Campaign 2023



LOL
Goal:
\$3,500.00

Received:
\$2400.00

THANK YOU!!



St. Mary's
Goal:
\$23,000.00

Received:
\$12740.00

THANK YOU!!

Serving the Lord

We are approaching the end of the Annual

Diocesan Ministry Campaign with only a couple weeks left. The campaign ends on December 31st. All money must be received at the Chancery Office by Friday, January 5, 2024. Please get your donation in soon! The outstanding balance will be taken out of our general account. Thank you for all your support!



The Youth Group will be kicking off the year with

a Christmas party to be held on Sunday, December 17th. We'll gather at the Church at 5pm then go for pizza and bowling 🎮. All youth in grades 7-12 are welcome to join us! Please contact Nathan @ 807-276-7142.

GAUDETE SUNDAY



The Third Sunday of Advent is called *Gaudete Sunday*, the day when we light the pink candle on the Advent wreath (hence the 'pink candle' Sunday). Rose vestments are worn to emphasize our joy that Christmas is near.

Gaudete means "rejoice". This day reminds us of the joy that is to come, and serves, amid this season of penance, as a kind of 'break' when we recall the hope we have because of the coming of Our Lord Jesus.

facebook.com/catholicsknowtheanswerofficialpage

ST. MARY'S

In your prayers, please remember those who are sick:

Shirley Fraser, Maurice DeGagné, Noella Hamilton, David Whalen, Isabella Keuler, Julie Halvorsen, Patrick McColeman, Frank Strain, Bridger Hands, Ewan MacKintosh, Father Ben Hadrich, Kathleen DeGagné, Greg Gustafson, Casey Hendrikx, Linda Blanc, Dave Egan, Rosanna Tweedie, Allison George, Lillian Bodnar, Sue Sivonen, Anna Busch, Murray Gibson, Lorraine Smith



*Offertory Collection for St. Mary's
Weekend Of
Dec. 10 - \$2731.25*



OUR LADY OF LOURDES





In your prayers, please remember those who are sick:

Curtis Jourdain, Mary Lou Parks, Dale Krueger, Steven "Beaver" Morrisseau, Roger Fillion, Gwen Beadle, Melvina Morrisseau

*Offertory Collection for Our Lady of Lourdes
Weekend Of
Dec. 10 - \$458.25*

Advent has begun! If you and your family or friends would like to light the Advent candles, please contact the Parish Office. You are welcome to notify Father before the mass as well.



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 <p>The Catholic Women's League of Canada</p> <p>Answer the call to service and enjoy the sisterhood of faith, fun, and fulfillment call Diane Revus @ 481-9787</p>	<p> Westland Insurance Home • Auto • Business westlandinsurance.ca</p> <p>1-800-465-7797 Formerly Gillons Insurance</p> <p>Proud Supporters of St. Mary's and Our Lady of Lourdes Churches</p>	
<p>Northwest Unit Ontario English Catholic Teacher's Association (OECTA)</p>  <p>Nathan Cousineau CO, BSc PRESIDENT</p> <p>400 Scott Street, Suite C Fort Frances, ON P9A 1H2</p> <p>807 276 7142 nwoceta@gmail.com</p>	<p>Northwest Road Management A Division of Leon DeGagne Ltd.</p> <p>Dust Suppression, Culverts and Equipment Rental</p> <p>R.R. #2, Site 204-25 Fort Frances, ON P9A 3M3</p> <p>Tel: 807 274-9112 Fax: 807 274-0319 info@leondegagne.com</p>	<p>NOR-FAB SYSTEM BUILT HOMES</p> <p>offers high-end quality built homes at affordable prices</p> <p>Choose from our designs or send us your ideas and we will design a dream home for you.</p> <p>www.nor-fabsystembulthomes.com sales@nor-fab.com (800) 465-2918</p>
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